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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/672,214	09/25/2003	William H. Richey	XHAT 101	2891
7590	01/13/2005		EXAMINER	
DEAN A. CRAINE			CHIN SHUE, ALVIN C	
Ste. 140			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
400 - 112th Ave. NE				3634
Bellevue, WA 98004				

DATE MAILED: 01/13/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/672,214	RICHEY ET AL.	
	Examiner Alvin C. Chin-Shue	Art Unit 3634	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on _____.
 2a) This action is **FINAL**. 2b) This action is non-final.
 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) Claim(s) 1-20 is/are pending in the application.
 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
 5) Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
 6) Claim(s) 1-3,7-9 and 11-20 is/are rejected.
 7) Claim(s) 4-6 and 10 is/are objected to.
 8) Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
 10) The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
 2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
 3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
 Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
 4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)
 Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
 5) Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
 6) Other: _____.

Claims 1,10,13 and 14 are objected to because of the following informalities: in claim 1, the numeral 12 is improper. In claim 10 it appears that 10iameter should be diameter, and in claims 13 and 14 the phrase “said vane” lacks antecedent basis. Appropriate correction is required.

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1,-3,18 and 19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Rickard in view of Davis. Rickard shows the claimed system with the exception of the means for creating a friction. Davis shows a means for creating friction at 17,21a,22 on a guide rail 4 to frustrate the lowering of a platform 1. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Rickard for his collar 18 or 17 to comprise a means for creating friction on his guide rod 8, as taught by Davis, to frustrate lowering of his platform.

Claims 15-17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Rickard and Davis as applied to claim 1 above, and further in view of Trivett. Trivett shows a collapsible canopy attached to a platform. It would have been

obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the platform of Rickard to comprise a canopy, as taught by Trivett, to enable a covering that facilitates storing.

Claim 20 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Rickard and Davis as applied to claim 18 above, and further in view of Manaugh. Manaugh shows a cable 14 attached to a platform 10. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to provide the platform of Rickard with a, as taught by Manaugh, to prevent his platform from falling.

Claims 7-9 and 11-14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Rickard and Davis as applied to claim 1 above, and further in view of Kunii. Kunii shows a guide collar with an upper plate 13, a lower rotatable plate 14 and bearings 15. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the collar 17 of Rickard to comprise a collar with plates and bearings, as taught by Kunii, for guiding his collar along his guide rod.

Claims 4-6 and 10 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Alvin C. Chin-Shue whose telephone number is 703-308-2475. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday, 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m..

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Lanna Mai can be reached on 703-308-2486. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Alvin C. Chin-Shue
Examiner
Art Unit 3634